

## REMARKS

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) for lack of novelty. Amended claims 1 and 3 (which are independent) both recite "a cardiac implant electric cable comprising a set of more than six insulated leads, wrapped in substantially parallel helices ... ."

In all of the cables shown in the Steinman patent, the "fiber bundles" are woven together, with spaces in between the fibers. In column 5, lines 11-22, the following rationale for this arrangement is given:

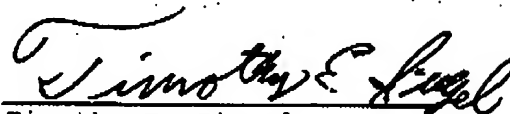
The cable may comprise bundles of fibers, loosely arranged or loosely held together for example by being plaited, knit, woven or twisted, resulting in interspaces between adjacent bundles, at least in places. The bundles will then be able to move to a limited extent, relative to each other. As a result, a fiber configuration including the totality of fibers may show good deformability and the possibility to stretch the fiber configuration beyond the extensibility of the individual fiber, as well as the possibility of bending and torsional deformations and a certain elasticity of form.

This teaches against the solution of the present invention, in which a set of leads (fiber bundles in the nomenclature of the Steinman patent) are wrapped in substantially parallel helices, as shown in FIGS. 2, 5 and 9 of the present application. Indeed, the present application presents a different solution to the problem of providing a flexible and flex-wear resistant cable, by

means of unique architecture, while avoiding the extra expense of weaving leads (or "fiber bundles") together, as is necessary in the approach disclosed in the Steinman patent. The applicant respectfully submits that there is no disclosure in the Steinman patent of a cable having leads that are wrapped in parallel helices. This is far from a minor point, as the process of wrapping with parallel helices is far simpler to implant than preparing the loose weave shown in the Steinman patent.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and early notification of claim allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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